

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DODE-00 PM-09 T-03 OMB-01 INRE-00 SS-14

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NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

USIE-00 TRSE-00 H-02 ACDA-19 /116 R

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PM: LSLOSS

JOINT STAFF: COL CONNELL(INFO)

EUR/ RPM: WROMINE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y(PARA 3, LINE 6, FIGURE SHOULD READ
9 PER CENT AND PARA 4, LINE 2; FIGURE SHOULD READ 35 PER CENT)

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: P/ M, NATO, MCAP

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SUBJ: COST OF US FORCES IN EUROPE

1. THE LATEST ESTIMATE FOR THE COST OF US FORCES
COMMITTED TO EUROPE, AND SUPPORT FOR THOSE FORCES, IS ABOUT
\$17 BILLION PER YEAR. THIS HAS BEEN REVISED UPWARD FROM
\$16 BILLION DUE TO INFLATION. THIS FIGURE IS BASED ON THE
COSTS OF ALL OF THE US GENERAL PURPOSE FORCES AND RELATED
SUPPORT ELEMENTS AND HEADQUARTERS IN EUROPE; SOME OF THE US
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GENERAL PURPOSE FORCES (BOTH ACTIVE AND RESERVE THAT ARE FORMALLY COMMITTED TO NATO BUT ARE NOT IN EUROPE); VARIABLE COSTS OF US- BASED SUPPORT INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL TRAINING SUPPORT, AND LOGISTICS FOR THE FOREGOING FORCES; MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (INCLUDING GREECE AND TURKEY; AND THE US COST SHARE OF THE NATO INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM.

2. ABOUT \$7.4 BILLION OF THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS THE DIRECT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS AND MILITARY PAY AND ALLOWANCES FOR THE US FORCES IN EUROPE, INCLUDING THE SIXTH FLEET, THE COST OF NEW EQUIPMENT, AND A PRORATED SHARE OF THE US LOGISTIC AND OTHER SUPPORT STRUCTURE IN CONUS.

3. WE BELIEVE THE LATTER FIGURE MOST ACCURATELY REPRESENTS THE PRESENT COST OF OUR NATO COMMITMENT, AND WE WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT EVEN THIS FIGURE COULD NOT BE SAVED UNLESS ALL OF THE US FORCES IN EUROPE WERE ELIMINATED FROM US FORCE STRUCTURE ALTOGETHER. THIS FIGURE REPRESENTS ABOUT 9 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR THE FY 73 AND FY 74 DEFENSE BUDGETS.

4. OTHER STATISTICS WHICH YOU MAY FIND USEFUL SHOW THAT THERE HAS BEEN OVER 35 PER CENT REDUCTION IN US MANPOWER DEPLOYED IN EUROPE SINCE 1961, AND THAT US FORCE LEVELS AND DEFENSE SHARES OF PUBLIC SPENDING AND GNP ARE AT THE LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 1950. ROGERS

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